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Shared from Nyack-Piermont, NY

Pandemic Cancels Nyack's Halloween Parade, Costume Contest

Still, officials have plans for alternative fun that has "the famous, and sometimes crazy, Nyack Halloween vibe."

By Lanning Taliaferro, Patch Staff P Sep 14, 2020 4:06 pm ET | Updated Sep 14, 2020 4:12 pm ET

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(Patch/ Bill Demarest)

NYACK, NY — Nyack's iconic Halloween parade and costume contest has been cancelled due to the coronavirus pandemic.

Hosted by the Nyack Chamber of Commerce and sponsored by leading local merchants, the event annually draws Halloween party fans from across the tri-state region, with hundreds of marchers and floats, more than 10,000 spectators, plus pre-and afterparade events at local parks, restaurants and bars. SEE: [VIDEO] Thousands Jam Downtown Nyack For Halloween Parade.

It's the biggest Halloween parade in New York outside of Greenwich Village (where parade has also been cancelled.)



It's just not an event when social distancing is easy or even possible; plus, in Phase 4 of New York state's post-outbreak reopening, gatherings are still limited to 50 or fewer people.

"But there's still plenty of scary fun to be had," said Katherine Davies, a Chamber board member.

The Chamber is hosting a virtual 'Halloween From Home' on Facebook, inviting everyone to post and view costume photos (including pets), videos, musical performances, cooking tutorials (the slimier the better) and more.

"Plus we're running a drive-by viewing of decorated houses for the kids," Davies said.

And then there's the Maskarade.

"Nyack merchants are already running a creative 'Maskarade' contest for all to show off their most spectacular pandemic masks," added Maria Luisa Whittingham of Nyack Merchants United. "There will be great prizes, to be awarded at a red carpet event in Nyack on October 30."

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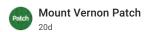
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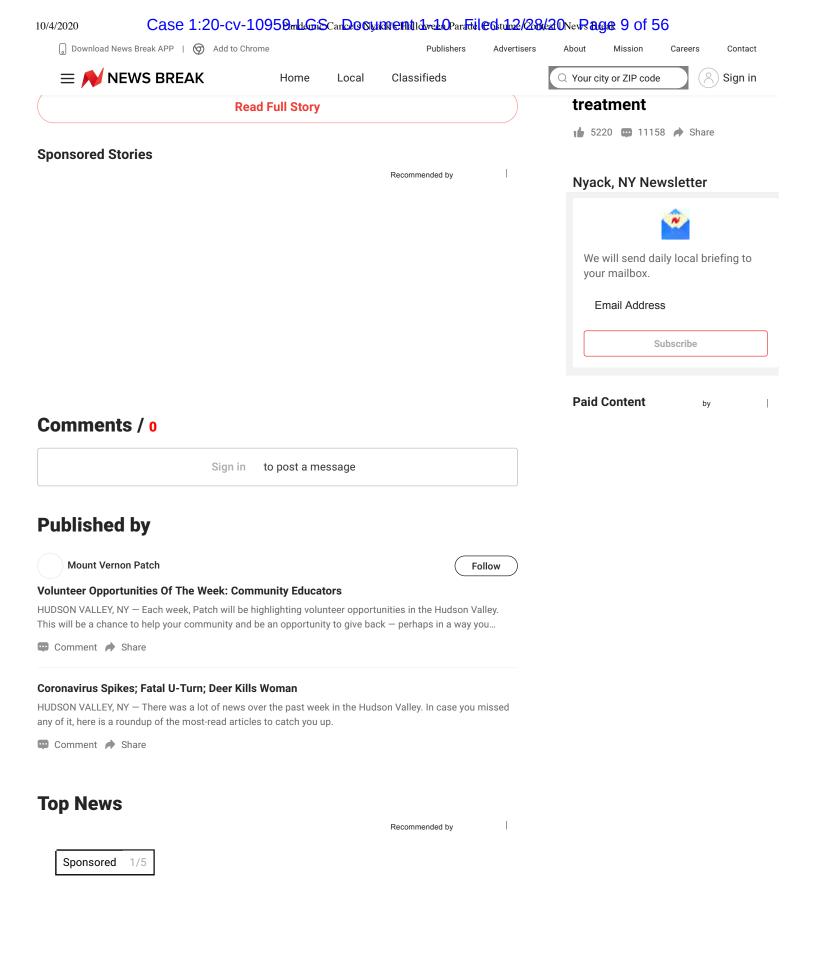
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Protesters Bring Clash Over Homeless Shuffle To Mayor's Doorstep

An hourslong rally Sunday against the mayor's planned evictions at city homeless shelters culminated in a standoff outside Gracie Mansion.

By Nick Garber, Patch Staff P

Sep 14, 2020 1:22 pm ET | Updated Sep 14, 2020 7:20 pm ET

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City Councilmember Helen Rosenthal speaks during a rally Sunday at Carl Schurz Park against the mayor's decision to transfer homeless residents from several city shelters. (Nick Garber/Patch)

UPPER EAST SIDE, NY — Incensed by the city's decision to move homeless men from the Lucerne Hotel shelter, setting off a wave of evictions that threaten to displace hundreds of families around the city, residents and advocates held an hourslong protest Sunday that began on the Upper West Side, moved across town for a rally at Carl Schurz Park and then culminated in a standoff outside the r home at Gracie Mansion.

Speakers focused their anger squarely at Mayor Bill de Blasio, accusing him of hypocrisy for campaigning on behalf of the city's poorest residents but then bowing to neighborhood pressure last week by pledging to move 283 men from the affluent Upper West Side, where residents mounted a fierce campaign against the temporary shelter.

"I would've thought Donald Trump was the mayor," State Sen. Brian Benjamin, who represents part of the Upper West Side, told the crowd gathered at Carl Schurz Park.



One Lucerne resident who calls himself Da Homeless Hero said that last week's announcement layered "trauma on top of trauma" for vulnerable residents who felt "moved around like pawns on a chessboard."

"When the news broke that we would be moved, I walked the halls of the Lucerne and into the neighborhood, and saw some of the strongest individuals I've come to know showing fear, confusion and disorientation," he said. "The trauma could be seen on their faces."

City Councilmember Helen Rosenthal, who represents the Upper West Side, urged de Blasio to cancel the transfers, arguing that "it's not too late" for the mayor to reverse his decision.

Marisol Hernandez works at Lenox Hill Hospital and lives at the Harmonia. She said her planned move to a South Bronx apartment has been jeopardized by the city's u. . . .ers (Nick Garber/Patch)

The rally was organized by UWS Open Hearts Initiative, formed last month in opposition to the "Upper West Siders for Safer Streets" Facebook group, which led the charge to move the homeless residents — sometimes using violent, dehumanizing language in the process.

Those in attendance also included homeless residents of the Harmonia shelter in Midtown, where 150 families could be evicted this week to make way for men from the Lucerne. Shelter residents in Brooklyn and Queens also risk being uprooted during the shuffle.

A possible lawsuit by the Legal Aid Society prompted the city to temporarily halt the evictions last week, although more than a dozen families had already left the Harmonia.

De Blasio defended the transfers in a news conference Monday morning, arguing that the hotel shelters were always meant to be temporary, intended to reduce crowding in congregate shelters during the pandemic.

"I can't move now"

Marisol Hernandez has lived at the Harmonia for eight months. A shelter provider called her Wednesday during her shift at Lenox Hill Hospital, where she works as an office coordinator, telling her to prepare to move.

The news was especially distressing for Hernandez, who had just signed a lease for her own apartment in the South Bronx. Now, the move-in process has been put on hold, and she fears the transfers will jeopardize her chance to get her own place.

"I can't move now. They're telling me by Friday, I'll have to go to another shelter," she said.

Following the rally, the group marched along the East River Esplanade over to Gracie Mansion, seeking to present the mayor with a "notice of transfer," instructing him to leave his residence and move to a homeless shelter.

The group, which included Rosenthal and Upper East Side councilmember Ben Kallos, stayed outside the mansion for more than three hours as they asked security guards to allow shelter residents to meet with the mayor before the transfers take place.

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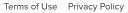












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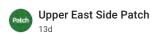
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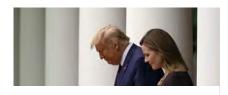
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The Hill | 13h

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Shared from Tarrytown-Sleepy Hollow, NY

Rallies, Marches For Black Lives Matter Scheduled

Organizers are requiring all participants to wear masks and social distancing.

By Michael Woyton, Patch Staff P Jun 19, 2020 3:45 pm ET

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There will be unity and justice marches and rallies in the lower Hudson Valley this weekend. (Lanning Taliaferro/Patch)

HUDSON VALLEY, NY — Among the events this weekend to call for unity and justice are three in the lower Hudson Valley. At 10 a.m. Saturday, the Bronxville Unity Walk in support of Black Lives Matter will begin.

The march will start at Leonard Morange Square near the train station and will end on the steps of village hall. Speakers will include village Mayor Mary Marvin. There will be road closures in the area. Masks must be worn and social distancing should be observed as much as possible.

In Greenburgh, the March for Justice and Change will begin at 4 p.m. Saturday at Greenburgh Town Hall, 177 Hillside Ave., and work its way to the Victory Tabernacle of Deliverance, 10 County Center Road. Organizers said all participants must wear masks and social distance. They also suggest to bring water, signs and your voice.



On Sunday, the Black Lives Matter Say Their Names march will begin at 2 p.m. People should gather around 1 p.m. at Calvary Baptist Church, 32 West Post Road in White Plains. There will be a rally on Court Street (Main Street and Martine Avenue) in White Plains.

Organizers said the safe, peaceful family march and rally will be to "say the names of those killed and murdered because of unjust police actions."

All marchers will be required to wear a mask and gloves and should bring a bottle of water.

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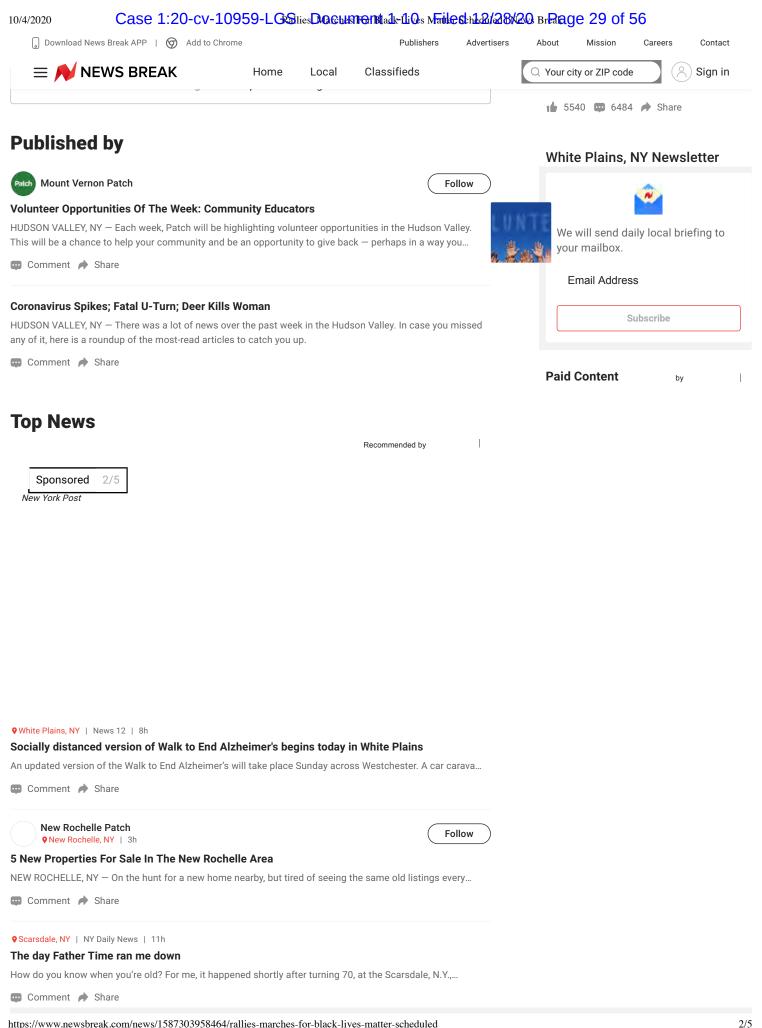
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By Adam Nichols, Patch Staff P Sep 25, 2020 3:48 pm ET

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An image of bubbles that a restaurant on the Upper West Side is using to separate customers enjoying outdoor dining. (Gus Saltonstall/Patch)

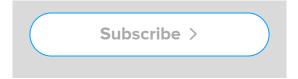
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Have you ever had classic French cuisine inside a plastic bubble on an Upper West Side sidewalk?

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A former City Council candidate screamed at health officials in Brooklyn, forcing them to stop a press conference about COVID-19 upticks.



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Chef Hiroki Odo is set to offer a once a week whiskey lounge experience in a Lower Manhattan penthouse.

Target At Columbus Circle Opening Next Month: Report

The Target at Broadway between W. 61st and 62nd Streets will be opening in October, according to the website ILoveTheUpperWestSide.

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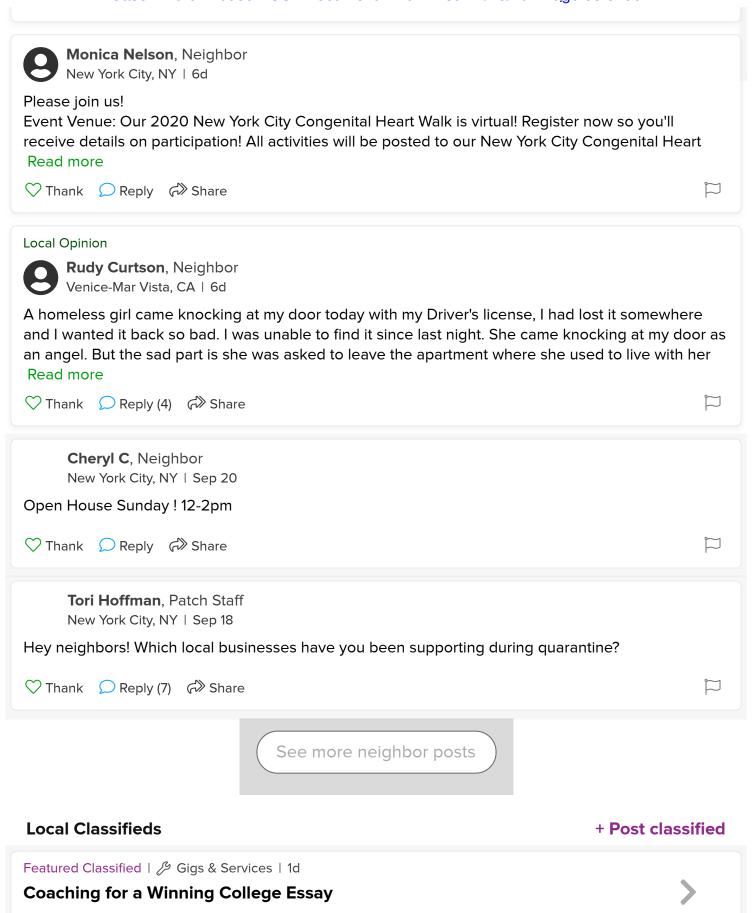


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See Pandemic's Toll 6 Months After NYC's 1st Coronavirus Case

Roughly 24,000 New Yorkers have died and 231,000 have been infected since the first confirmed COVID-19 case on March 1.

By Matt Troutman, Patch Staff P

Sep 4, 2020 12:59 pm ET | Updated Sep 4, 2020 1:04 pm ET

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Roughly 24,000 New Yorkers have died and 231,000 have been infected since the first confirmed COVID-19 case on March 1. (Matt Troutman/Patch)

NEW YORK CITY — Empty streets. Shuttered restaurants and theaters. Mass unemployment. Masks everywhere. Overflowing hospitals. Trailers full of bodies. Roughly 24,000 dead and a new normal emerging.

All that and more came to pass in the six months since the first confirmed COVID-19 case was found in New York City.

It's almost cliché to point out there's a person and story behind every coronavirus statistic — a beloved local bakery owner whose community couldn't be by his bedside as he died; a nurse who celebrated his birthday with his family behind a glass door wouldn't get sick; the overwhelmed staff at a Queens hospital where the city's CC wave first crashed.

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But numbers tell a story too — one that shows how quickly the pandemic struck and reshaped New York City.

The First Case

A 39-year-old health care worker who recently traveled to Iran became the first confirmed COVID-19 case in New York City.

It was March 1.

New York City's publicly-available coronavirus data shows the number of positive coronavirus tests grew at an alarming rate. By March 13, the positive tests surpassed 1,000 and within days of that schools, restaurants and more were shut down.

When the state's "PAUSE" stay-at-home order went into effect on March 22, there were 24,000 positive cases, according to the city's data.

More than 200 people had already died.

The First Death

March 11 — that's the first entry on New York City's official coronavirus death tally. It's a single recorded death, marked under the "confirmed" column.

Then two days passed without a single confirmed or even "probable" coronavirus death in the city, according to the data.

The respite didn't last.

Deaths did nothing but climb every day from March 14 — when there were three deaths — until they peaked April 8.

On that, the single-worst day of the pandemic in New York City, 813 people died from the virus, data shows.

Gov. Andrew Cuomo, who held daily coronavirus briefings as the virus ravaged the city, labeled the time the peak of the state's coronavirus "mountain."

"Doing this once in life is enough," Cuomo said during a later briefing in which he unveiled a scale model of New York's curve sculpted into a literal representation of a mountain. "We don't need to climb another mountain."

The Epicenter

On March 20, Mayor Bill de Blasio declared New York City the nation's "epicenter" of the coronavirus crisis.

It took days after that for the city to publicly release data showing the virus' toll on individual boroughs and neighborhoods.

When officials finally did on April 1, an almost unbelievable twist of irony emerged — the ZIP code covering Corona, Queens had the most positive tests in city with 947.

That's right, Corona was the epicenter of the coronavirus epicenter.

The 11368 ZIP Code covering Corona still has the most positive tests in the city, as well as deaths, according to data.

Here are the top 10 ZIP codes and neighborhoods for positive tests, as of Sept. 3:

- 1. 11368 Corona/North Corona 5,114 cases
- 2. 10467 Allerton/Norwood/Pelham Parkway/Williamsbridge 3,855 cases
- 3. 11373 Elmhurst 3,532 cases
- 4. 11219 Borough Park 3,348 cases
- 5. 10469 Allerton/Baychester/Pelham Gardens/Williamsbridge 3,263 cases
- 6. 10468 Fordham/Kingsbridge/University Heights 3,155 cases
- 7. 11236 Canarsie 3,020 cases

8. 10314 — Bloomfield/Freshkills Park — 2,927 cases

9. 10456 — Claremont/Morrisania — 2,877 cases

10. 11372 — Jackson Heights — 2,829 cases

The ZIP codes with the most deaths are slightly different:

1. 11368 — Corona/North Corona — 446 deaths

2. 11691 — Edgemere/Far Rockaway — 374 deaths

3. 10469 — Allerton/Baychester/Pelham Gardens/Williamsbridge — 366 deaths

4. 10467 — Allerton/Norwood/Pelham Parkway/Williamsbridge — 329 deaths

5. 11226 — Flatbush/Prospect Lefferts Gardens — 301 deaths

6. 11235 — Brighton Beach/Manhattan Beach/Sheepshead Bay — 301 deaths

7. 11236 — Canarsie — 300 deaths

8. 11354 — Flushing/Murray Hill — 300 deaths

9. 11373 — Elmhurst — 297 deaths

10. 10456 — Claremont/Morrisania — 293 deaths

The Toll After Six Months

De Blasio's recent Thursday briefing on the city's daily coronavirus numbers shows how much the situation has improved.

The city's positive test rate —which hit as high as 71.25 percent at its peak— now stands at 0.8 percent, de Blasio said.

Its rolling seven-day average of new coronavirus cases was 253, below the 500-c. threshold city health officials set as a warning sign, he said.

There were 84 people admitted to the hospital for coronavirus symptoms, also below a 200 red line, he said.

And city officials didn't count a single death on Wednesday, the last day for which data was available when this story was written. That number could be revised, but the city hasn't had a day in which COVID-19 deaths reached above 10 since July.

The city's six-month toll stands at roughly 24,000 deaths, 57,000 hospitalizations and 231,000 total cases.



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